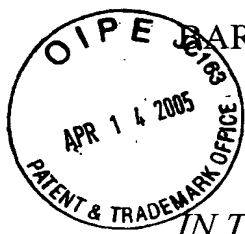


TW 1725



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*IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE*

Group: 1725

Confirmation No.: 4154

Application No.: 10/077,391

Invention: CASTING STEEL STRIP

Applicant: Nikolovski et al

Filed: February 15, 2002

Attorney

Docket: 29385-69914

Examiner: Tran Len

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on April 12, 2005

E. W. Beard

Eric W. Beard  
(Printed)

**AMENDMENT TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the non-final Office Action of February 1, 2005, and the interview on April 6, 2005. No fee is believed due with this response. However, if a fee is deemed applicable, any fees should be charged to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with reference to file 29385-69914.

The presented claims are amended and presented in accordance 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1) and (2) as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of continuously casting steel strip comprising: